

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A camera comprising:

an image data input unit forming an image of a subject for photographing said subject;
a condition storing unit storing a predetermined photographing condition relating to at least one of an expression and characteristic feature of an aimed object in the image of the subject;

an extractor extracting data of said aimed object from said image of said subject based on an extracting condition;

a detecting unit detecting a condition of said aimed object on said image, and said detecting unit detecting a satisfaction of said condition of said aimed object with said predetermined photographing condition; and

a timing signal generator automatically outputting a timing signal when said detecting unit detects the satisfaction of said photographing condition,

wherein said extractor is adapted to identify candidate aimed objects in said image of said subject based on depth information of said image indicating the distance from the camera to parts of said subject.

2. (Currently Amended) A camera as set forth in claim 1, ~~further comprising an extractor extracting data of an aimed object from said image of said subject based on an extracting condition,~~

~~wherein said photographing condition includes a predetermined condition related to a desirable~~ said aimed object and said timing signal generator outputs said timing signal when said

aimed object satisfies said photographing condition.

Claim 3. (Canceled)

4. (Original) A camera as set forth in claim 2,
wherein said extractor detects data of a judgement location from said data of said aimed object in said image based on a detecting condition different from said extracting condition,
said photographing condition includes a predetermined photographing condition related to a desirable judgement location, and
said timing signal generator outputs said timing signal when said judgement location satisfies said photographing condition.
5. (Original) A camera as set forth in claim 2,
wherein said extractor extracts data of a plurality of said aimed objects from said image;
and
said timing signal generator outputs said timing signal when said plurality of aimed objects satisfy said photographing condition.
6. (Original) A camera as set forth in claim 5, wherein said timing signal generator outputs said timing signal when the ratio of said aimed objects satisfying said photographing condition against all of said plurality of said aimed object exceeds a predetermined ratio.

7. (Previously Presented) A camera as set forth in claim 5,
wherein said extractor detects data of a plurality of judgement locations from each of said data of said plurality of aimed objects based on a detecting condition different from said photographing condition,
said photographing condition includes a predetermined photographing condition related to said judgement location, and
said timing signal generator outputs said timing signal when said plurality of said judgement locations satisfy said photographing condition.
8. (Original) A camera as set forth in claim 7, wherein said timing signal generator outputs said timing signal when the ratio of said judgement locations satisfying said photographing condition against all of said plurality of said aimed object exceeds a predetermined ratio.
9. (Original) A camera as set forth in claim 1, further comprising an image-pickup control unit controlling said input unit for photographing said image based on said timing signal.
10. (Original) A camera as set forth in claim 1, further comprising an illuminator illuminating said subject based on said timing signal.
11. (Original) A camera as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a recording unit recording said image on a replaceable nonvolatile recording medium based on said timing signal.

12. (Original) A camera as set forth in claim 1, further comprising an alarm outputting an alarm signal for notifying that said subject satisfies said photographing condition based on said timing signal.

13. (Original) A camera as set forth in claim 1,
wherein said photographing condition includes a plurality of photographing conditions,
and
said camera further comprises a condition-setting unit previously selecting at least one of said photographing conditions, for photographing said image, from among said plurality of photographing conditions.

14. (Original) A camera as set forth in claim 4, further comprising:
an input condition determining unit determining an input condition for inputting said image based on information of said judgement location detected by said extractor; and
an image-forming control unit controlling an input unit for forming said image of said subject based on said input condition.

15. (Original) A camera as set forth in claim 4, further comprising an image processing unit processing said image based on information of said judgement location detected by said extractor.

16. (Withdrawn) A camera comprising:

an image data input unit forming a plurality of images of a subject for photographing said subject;

a condition storing unit storing a predetermined photographing condition related to a desirable variation of said subject;

a variation detector detecting variation of said subject in said plurality of said images based on information of said plurality of images; and

a timing signal generator outputting a timing signal when said variation of said subject satisfies said photographing condition.

17. (Withdrawn) A camera as set forth in claim 16, further comprising: an extractor extracting data of an aimed object from each of said plurality of images of said subject based on an extracting condition,

wherein said photographing condition includes a predetermined condition related to a desirable aimed object,

said variation detector detects variation of said aimed object in said plurality of images based on said information of said plurality of images, and

said timing signal generator outputs said timing signal when said variation of said aimed object satisfies said photographing condition.

18. (Withdrawn) A camera as set forth in claim 17, wherein said extracting condition is based on depth information of said plurality of images indicating the distance to each part of said subject.

19. (Withdrawn) A camera as set forth in claim 17,
wherein said extractor detects data of a judgement location from said data of said aimed object in each of said plurality of images based on a detecting condition different from said extracting condition,

said photographing condition includes a predetermined photographing condition related to a desirable judgement location,

said variation detector detects variation of said judgement location in said plurality of images based on said information of said plurality of images, and

said timing signal generator outputs said timing signal when said variation of said judgement location satisfies said photographing condition.

20. (Withdrawn) A camera as set forth in claim 19,

wherein said photographing condition includes a predetermined starting condition for starting detection of said variation of said judgement location, and

said variation detector starts detecting said variation of said judgement location when said judgement location satisfies said starting condition.

21. (Withdrawn) A camera as set forth in claim 17,
wherein said extractor extracts data of a plurality of said aimed objects from each of said plurality of images,
said variation detector detects variation of each of said plurality of said aimed objects in said plurality of images based on information of said plurality of images, and
said timing signal generator outputs said timing signal when said variation of said plurality of said aimed objects satisfy said photographing condition.
22. (Withdrawn) A camera as set forth in claim 21,
wherein said extractor detects data of a plurality of judgement locations from each of said data of said plurality of aimed objects based on a detecting condition different from said extracting condition,
said photographing condition includes a predetermined photographing condition related to desirable variation of said judgement location,
said variation detector detects variation of each of said plurality of said judgement locations in said plurality of images based on information of said plurality of images, and
said timing signal generator outputs said timing signal when said variation of said plurality of said judgement locations satisfy said photographing condition.
23. (Withdrawn) A camera as set forth in claim 16 further comprising an image pickup control unit controlling said input unit for photographing said image based on said timing signal.

24. (Withdrawn) A camera as set forth in claim 16, further comprising an illuminator illuminating said subject based on said timing signal.

25. (Withdrawn) A camera as set forth in claim 16, further comprising a recording unit recording said image on a replaceable nonvolatile recording medium based on said timing signal.

26. (Withdrawn) A camera as set forth in claim 16, further comprising an alarm outputting an alarm signal for notifying that said subject satisfies said photographing condition based on said timing signal.

27. (Withdrawn) A camera as set forth in claim 16,
wherein said photographing condition includes a plurality of photographing conditions,
and
said camera further comprises a condition-setting unit previously selecting at least one of said photographing conditions for photographing said image, from among said plurality of photographing conditions.

28. (Withdrawn) A camera as set forth in claim 23, wherein said timing signal generator selects said judgement location satisfying said photographing condition from among said plurality of said judgement locations in said plurality of images, and outputs information for said aimed object including said judgement location, and

said camera further comprising:

an input condition determining unit determining an input condition for inputting said image based on information for said judgement location; and

an image forming control unit controlling an input unit for forming said image of said subject based on said input condition.

29. (Withdrawn) A camera as set forth in claim 23, wherein said timing signal generator selects said judgement location satisfying said photographing condition from among said plurality of said judgement locations in said plurality of images, and outputs information for said aimed object including said judgement location, and

said camera further comprising an image processing unit processing said image based on said information for said judgement location.

30. (Currently Amended) A method of photographing an image of a subject comprising:

storing a predetermined photographing condition relating to at least one of an expression and characteristic feature of an aimed object in the image of the subject;

extracting data of said aimed object from said image of said subject based on an extracting condition;

detecting a condition of said aimed object on said image;

automatically detecting a satisfaction of said condition of said aimed object with said predetermined photographing condition; and

automatically outputting a timing signal when the satisfaction of said predetermined

photographing condition is automatically detected

wherein said extracting step identifies at least one candidate aimed object in said image of said subject based on depth information of said image indicating the distance from the camera to parts of said subject.

31. (Currently Amended) A method as set forth in claim 30, ~~further comprising:~~

~~extracting data of an aimed object from said image of said subject based on an extracting condition,~~

~~wherein said photographing condition includes a predetermined condition related to a desirable said aimed object, and~~

said timing signal is output when said aimed object satisfies said photographing condition.

32. (Original) A method as set forth in claim 31, wherein said extracting includes detecting data of a judgement location from said data of said aimed object in said image based on a detecting condition different from said extracting condition,

said photographing condition includes a predetermined photographing condition related to a desirable judgement location, and

said timing signal is output when said judgement location satisfies said photographing condition.

33. (Original) A method as set forth in claim 30, further comprising photographing said subject based on said timing signal.

34. (Original) A method as set forth in claim 30, further comprising recording said photographed image of said subject on a replaceable nonvolatile recording medium based on said timing signal.

35. (Original) A method as set forth in claim 32, further comprising:
determining an input condition for inputting said image based on information for said judgement location detected in said detecting step; and
forming said image of said subject based on said input condition.

36. (Original) A method as set forth in claim 32 further comprising processing said image based on information for said judgement location detected in said detecting step.

37. (Withdrawn) A method of photographing a plurality of images of a subject comprising:
detecting variation of said subject in said plurality of said images based on information for said plurality of images;
outputting a timing signal when said variation of said subject satisfies a predetermined photographing condition related to a desirable variation of said subject.

38. (Withdrawn) A method as set forth in claim 37, further comprising extracting data of an

aimed object from each of said plurality of images of said subject based on an extracting condition,

said detecting includes detecting variation of said aimed object based on information for said image, and

said timing signal is output when said variation of said aimed object satisfies said photographing condition.

39. (Withdrawn) A method as set forth in claim 38, wherein said extraction of said aimed object includes detecting data of a judgement location from said data of said aimed object in each of said plurality of images based on a detecting condition different from said extracting condition,

said detecting variation of said subject includes detecting variation of said judgement location based on information for said image, and

said timing signal is output when said variation of said judgement location satisfies said photographing condition.

40. (Withdrawn) A method as set forth in claim 39, wherein said photographing condition includes a predetermined starting condition for starting detection of said variation of said judgement location, and

said detecting of variation starts detecting said variation of said judgement location when said judgement location satisfies said starting condition.

41. (Withdrawn) A method as set forth in claim 37, further comprising photographing said image based on said timing signal.